CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:
 - a) a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence which encodes an amino acid sequence exhibiting at least 40% sequence identity to an amino acid sequence encoded by
 - (1) a nucleotide sequence described in Tables 1 and/or 2 or a fragment thereof; or
 - (2) a complement of a nucleotide sequence shown in Tables 1 and/or 2 or a fragment thereof;
 - b) a nucleic acid which is the reverse of the nucleotide sequence according to subparagraph (a), such that the reverse nucleotide sequence has a sequence order which is the reverse of the sequence order of the nucleotide sequence according to subparagraph (a);
 - c) a nucleic acid capable of hybridizing to a nucleic acid having a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
 - (1) a nucleotide sequence which is shown in Tables 1 and/or 2; and
 - (2) a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to a nucleotide sequence shown in Tables 1 and/or 2, under conditions that permit formation of a nucleic acid duplex at a temperature from about 40°C and 48°C below the melting temperature of the nucleic acid duplex.
- 2. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence which exhibits at least 65% sequence identity to
 - a) a nucleotide sequence shown in Tables 1 and/or 2 or a fragment thereof; or
 - b) a complement of a nucleotide sequence described in Tables 1 and/or 2 or a fragment thereof.
- 3. The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid comprises an open reading frame.
- 4. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid is capable of functioning as a promoter, a 3' end termination sequence, an untranslated region (UTR), or as a regulatory sequence.
- 5. The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 4, wherein (a) when said nucleic acid is a promoter it comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of a TATA box sequence, a CAAT box sequence, a motif of GCAATCG or any transcription-factor

5

10

15

5

5

5

5



binding sequence, and any combination thereof; and (b) when said nucleic acid sequence is a regulatory sequence it is capable of promoting seed-specific expression, embryo-specific expression, ovule-specific expression, tapetum-specific expression or root-specific expression of a sequence or any combination thereof.

- 6. A vector construct comprising:
 - a) a first nucleic acid having a regulatory sequence capable of causing transcription and/or translation; and
 - b) a second nucleic acid having the sequence of the isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1;

wherein said first and second nucleic acids are operably linked and wherein said second nucleic acid is heterologous to any element in said vector construct.

- 7. The vector construct according to claim 6, wherein said first nucleic acid is native to said second nucleic acid.
- 8. The vector construct according to claim 6, wherein said first nucleic acid is heterologous to said second nucleic acid.
- 9. A host cell comprising an isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is flanked by exogenous sequence.
- 10. A host cell comprising a vector construct of claim 6.
- 11. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence
 - a) exhibiting at least 40%, or 75%, or 85%, or 90% sequence identity of an amino acid sequence encoded by a sequence shown in Tables 1 and/or 2 or a fragment thereof; and
 - b) capable of exhibiting at least one of the biological activities of the polypeptide encoded by said nucleotide sequence shown in Tables 1 and/or 2 or a fragment thereof.
- 12. An antibody capable of binding the isolated polypeptide of claim 11.
- 13. A method of introducing an isolated nucleic acid into a host cell comprising:
 - a) providing an isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1; and
 - b) contacting said isolated nucleic with said host cell under conditions that permit insertion of said nucleic acid into said host cell.
- 14. A method of transforming a host cell which comprises contacting a host cell with a vector construct according to claim 6.
- 15. A method of modulating transcription and/or translation of a nucleic acid in a host cell comprising:



- a) providing the host cell of claim 9; and
- b) culturing said host cell under conditions that permit transcription or translation.
- 16. A method for detecting a nucleic acid in a sample which comprises:
 - a) providing an isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1;
 - b) contacting said isolated nucleic acid molecule with a sample under conditions which permit a comparison of the sequence of said isolated nucleic acid molecule with the sequence of DNA in said sample; and
 - c) analyzing the result of said comparison.
- 17. A plant or cell of a plant which comprises a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 which is exogenous or heterologous to said plant or plant cell.
- 18. A plant or cell of a plant which comprises a vector construct according to claim 6.
- 19. A plant which has been regenerated from a plant cell according to claim 17.
- 20. A plant which has been regenerated from a plant cell according to claim 18.

5